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SOUTH WEST SALOP UNITED DISTRICTS

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1965

BOROUGH OF BISHOP'S CASTLE

RURAL DISTRICT OF ATCHAM

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLUN

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. | Dr. Didsbury | AST | C.407 |
| 2. | Mr. Morley Parry | | A.429 |
| 3. | Mr. Perry | | A.405 |

I N D E X

	<i>Page</i>
1. Public Health Officers	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Section A. General and Local Statistics	6
4. Section B. Personal Health Services	8
5. Section C. Environmental Health Services in the Various Districts—Bishop's Castle, Atcham, Clun	15
6. Section D. Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease	25
Appendix I. Causes of Death	27
II. Inspections under Factory Acts	28

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RURAL DISTRICT OF CLUN

Note: By virtue of Article 14 of The Salop Order 1966, the report relating to the Urban District of Church Stretton for the year 1965 is required to be submitted to the Ludlow Rural District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

WILLIAM HALL, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors

ATCHAM RURAL DISTRICT

†D. H. Corfield, Cert. R.S.I., Chief Inspector.

†C. T. Mabbott, Cert. R.S.I., Public Health Inspector.

†P. Howard, Cert. R.S.I., Additional Inspector.

BOROUGH OF BISHOP'S CASTLE

Emergency Public Health Work has been carried out by arrangement with
Clun Rural District.

CLUN RURAL DISTRICT

†*H. Bramwell, Cert. R.S.I., Chief Inspector

*R. W. Easton, Cert. R.S.I., Additional Inspector.

Public Health Laboratory Service

Bacteriologist : Dr. A. C. JONES

Public Health Laboratory

Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury

Telephone No. Shrewsbury 4684

† Meat Inspector's Certificate held.

* Also holds the Post of Surveyor or Assistant Surveyor.

SOUTH WEST SALOP UNITED DISTRICTS

OAKLEY MANOR,
BELLE VUE,
SHREWSBURY.

To the Mayor of Bishop's Castle, Chairmen and Members of Councils
of the United South West Districts of Shropshire.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the report on the health of your various districts for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

The mid-year population of the United Districts has been estimated to be 34,590. This figure reflects the loss of Church Stretton to Ludlow Rural District but the remaining districts have shown an increase of 720. The population of Atcham is estimated to have increased by 690, of Bishop's Castle by 30 but the Rural District of Clun is unchanged.

The standardised Birth Rates for all three districts are slightly higher than the figures for the County and for England and Wales.

The standardised Death Rates on the other hand are appreciably lower for all three districts than the figures for the County and for England and Wales.

Notifications of statutorily Notifiable Diseases were 150 more than for 1964 on a reduced population. Out of 391 diseases notified 268 were cases of Measles.

In Bishop's Castle the more urgent work in connection with the environmental health services continued to be undertaken by the Public Health staff of the Clun Rural District pending the merging of the two Authorities on 1st April, 1967, or some late change in policy.

In Atcham Rural District notable progress was made during the year on the Housing Survey details of which appear in Section C of the report. The Survey has been carried out Parish by Parish and subsequent action has been taken to bring about the improvement, repair or demolition of substandard houses. The energetic pursuance of this policy will inevitably lead to a high standard of housing in the Rural District.

It will be noted that the Council completed the building of 40 new houses in the year and another 39 were under construction at the end of the year.

During the same period 105 private houses were built and at the end of the year 179 were under construction.

In the Rural District of Clun work was completed during the year on the provision of a satisfactory piped water supply to Newcastle, Whitcott, Keysett and Mardu.

The scheme for re-sewering Clun very quickly ran into difficulties which led to the cancellation of the original contract and the engagement of a new firm of contractors to take over and complete the work. The new firm took over the work in August and work was proceeding steadily at the end of the year.

At Lydbury North the building continued on ten bungalows for old people and these were almost finished by the end of the year.

A contract for the provision of Grouped Dwellings for Old People was signed on the 14.6.65 and building commenced shortly after.

Details of the Personal Health Services operating in the various districts and statistics associated with them are republished in this report from the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health. I should like to express my thanks to the County Medical Officer of Health for their use, and also my thanks and appreciation to the Surveyors and Public Health Inspectors of the Districts for their reports on the sanitary circumstances, which form Section C of the Report.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HALL.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

England and Wales

18.0
15.7
19.0
13.0
26.9
11.5

Live Birth Rate
Stillbirth Rate
Infant Mortality Rate
Neonatal Mortality Rate
Perinatal Mortality Rate
Death Rate

County of Salop

18.59 (standardised)
17.83
17.81
10.89
26.67
11.0 (standardised)

SOUTH WEST SALOP UNITED DISTRICTS

	Bishop's Castle M.B.	Atcham R.D.	Clun R.D.
AREA (in acres inclusive of water)	1,867	134,490	132,512
RATEABLE VALUE (at 1st April, 1965)	£37,086	£623,951	£128,473
ESTIMATED PRODUCT OF 1d. RATE (at 1st April, 1965)	£132	£2,480	£476
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES	463	8,248	3,046
ESTIMATED POPULATION (Mid-1965)... ..	1,260	24,440	8,890
Births			
LIVE BIRTHS: Legitimate	19	415	150
Illegitimate	1	36	6
Total	20	451	156
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS as % of Total Live Births	5%	8%	3.8%
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population—			
Crude	15.87	18.45	17.55
Standardised	20.00	19.00	20.01
STILL BIRTHS: Legitimate	—	4	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	—	4	1
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total births ...	—	8.79	6.37
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	20	455	157
Infant Deaths			
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR—			
Total	—	10	—
Rate per 1,000 live births... ..	—	22.17	—
Legitimate	—	9	—
Rate per 1,000 legitimate births ...	—	21.69	—
Illegitimate	—	1	—
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	—	27.78	—
DEATHS UNDER 4 WEEKS	—	5	—
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 live births	—	11.08	—
DEATHS UNDER ONE WEEK	—	5	—
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 live births... ..	—	11.08	—
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under one week and stillbirths per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	—	19.78	6.37

	Bishop's Castle M.B.	Atcham R.D.	Clun R.D.
Maternal Mortality			
DEATHS (including abortion)	—	—	—
RATE per 1,000 live and still births	—	—	—
Deaths			
TOTAL DEATHS from all causes... ..	22	242	89
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population—			
Crude	17.46	9.90	10.01
Standardised	6.29	10.20	9.91

South West Salop United Districts:

Total estimated population	34,590
Total area in acres	268,869
Number of inhabited houses	11,793
Total Rateable Value	£789,508
Estimated product of Id. rate	£3,088

The total number of the population in the three Districts as at the 30th June, 1965, is estimated by the Registrar-General as 34,590. This figure is 720 above the figure given for 1964.

The following are the estimates of the population for each of the Districts in 1965, and the figures for the years 1963 and 1964 are also given. It will be seen that there is an increase for the two areas other than Clun R.D., as compared with the figures for 1964.

District:	Estimated Population			Increase or Decrease
	1963	1964	1965	
Atcham R.D.	23,290	23,750	24,440	+690
Bishop's Castle M.B.	1,230	1,230	1,260	+30
Clun R.D.	8,680	8,890	8,890	=
	<u>36,010</u>	<u>36,720</u>	<u>34,590</u>	<u>+720</u>

SECTION B

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

These Services are provided by the County Council under the authority of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

(a) CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

Stone House, Bishop's Castle	...	...	...	2nd and 4th Fridays
Public Hall, Pontesbury	...	...	...	2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Attendances at these Welfare Centres during 1965 were as follows:—

Welfare Centre	Total Cases	Total Attendances
Bishop's Castle	76	347
Pontesbury	123	711

(b) FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS

The Shrewsbury and District Branch of the Family Planning Association operate a clinic in the County Council's Welfare Centre at Murivance, Shrewsbury, from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. on Mondays (Bank Holidays excepted), and from 2.0 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. on Wednesdays. An evening clinic is also held from 6.0 p.m. to 7.0 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays in the month.

(c) CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

Moral Welfare Workers employed by the Hereford and Lichfield Diocesan Associations (to whom the County Council pay annual grants of £400 and £900 respectively) cover the District, being based as follows:—

Miss P. Barnes, Lyme Cottage, Eardisland, Leominster (Pembridge 274).

Mrs. C. M. Gibson, 7 New College Road, Shrewsbury (Shrewsbury 6083).

Mrs. C. V. Jones, 25 Talbot Chambers, Market Street, Shrewsbury (Shrewsbury 4900).

The County Council also gives substantial grants to two Mother and Baby Homes affiliated to the Lichfield Diocese, but within the County, to which cases from any County District may be admitted.

(d) DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

There are twenty-two distribution points in the area from which supplies of National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin A and D tablets) can be obtained. These points have been set up at a variety of places, including Child Welfare Centres, Post Offices, local shops and private houses.

There are fourteen such points in the Atcham Rural District, five in the Clun Rural District, and one in the Borough of Bishop's Castle.

Midwifery

The County Council employ a total of 15 midwives in the District. Throughout the whole area they undertake district nursing as well as midwifery duties.

The following table gives details of the midwifery work carried out by these midwives during 1965:—

Nursing District	Total Confinements	Total Domiciliary Visits	Attendance on Discharged Institutional Cases	
			Cases	Visits
Alberbury	11	248	24	131
Atcham	60	1,265	40	243
*Bishop's Castle	8	186	8	70
Bomere Heath	32	702	20	79
Chirbury	4	89	8	31
Clun	7	225	7	41
Clungunford	4	117	8	37
Dorrington	8	210	23	137
*Kinnerley	20	457	10	42
Longden	15	319	13	45
Pontesbury	10	238	24	145
Stiperstones	4	103	10	66
*Sundorne	11	240	31	127
*Westbury	9	206	12	80
*Wrockwardine	17	397	28	100

*Nurse is also a qualified Health Visitor.

The Nursing Districts, comprising groups of Parishes, do not conform to the boundary of the Combined Districts and the figures given above therefore will include many cases from outside this District. (This also applies to the figures given for Home Nursing).

Health Visiting

Five full-time Health Visitors are employed by the County Council in the combined Districts in addition to those five nurses who are qualified Health Visitors and undertake this work in a part-time capacity (see table above).

Home Nursing

As stated above, the midwives employed by the County Council in the Combined Districts undertake the home nursing duties.

Cases attended and visits made during 1965 were as follows:—

Nursing District	Home Nursing Cases	Visits
Alberbury	82	1,453
Atcham	94	3,125
Bishop's Castle	65	1,581
Bomere Heath	45	617
Chirbury	46	1,311
Clun	101	3,454
Clungunford	74	2,588
Dorrington	75	1,571
Kinnerley	31	602
Longden	59	1,744
Pontesbury	53	951
Stiperstones	35	792
Sundorne	50	961
Westbury	51	1,509
Wrockwardine	52	985

Ambulance Service

The Central Ambulance Depot is at Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, and the telephone number is Shrewsbury 6331. A new full-time Ambulance Depot was opened at Craven Arms on 25th December, 1965, replacing the former Sub-Depots at Ludlow and Bishop's Castle. At the end of the year 1965 there were 16 ambulances at Shrewsbury, 6 dual purpose vehicles, and 2 cars for sitting cases. 5 ambulances and 2 dual purpose vehicles were based at Craven Arms.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Protection is offered, in particular to pre-school children, school children, and in special circumstances to others, against Smallpox, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis, and to children of thirteen-years and over against Tuberculosis.

The immunisation procedure is carried out in many cases by General Medical Practitioners, and by School Medical Officers in Clinics and Schools.

The following tables give the numbers of children who have availed themselves during the year of the facilities offered.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

PRIMARY COURSES

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	199	10	20
General Practitioners	288	51	113
Totals	497	61	133

REINFORCING DOSES

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	137	20	20
General Practitioners	167	22	60
Totals	304	42	80

Primary Immunisation against Tetanus

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	280	17	13
General Practitioners	357	48	179
Totals	637	65	192

Primary Immunisation against Diphtheria

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	151	6	—
General Practitioners	323	32	77
Totals	474	38	77

Re-Immunisations against Diphtheria

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	354	34	23
General Practitioners	185	29	50
Totals	439	63	73

Primary Immunisation against Whooping Cough

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	143	6	—
General Practitioners	306	32	74
Totals	449	38	74

Primary and Re-Vaccination against Smallpox

	Atcham R.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.
County Council Medical Officers	146	13	17
General Practitioners	214	19	67
Totals	360	32	84

B.C.G. Vaccination

School	Consent Forms received	Refusals	No. of Consents Presented	No. of Children Skin tested	Skin Test Readings		No. Vac- cinated
					Positive	Negative	
Bishop's Castle High	103	5	98	87	4	77	75
Pontesbury Modern	29	5	24	19	5	13	12
Albrighton Hall	3	—	3	3	1	2	2

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

(a) All home nurses and midwives hold a small supply of minor articles of nursing equipment such as hot water bottles, air rings, bed pans and feeding cups for loan to patients being nursed at home.

(b) The treatment of Tuberculosis falls to Regional Hospital Boards to provide in the way of Sanatoria and Chest Clinics, but the preventive and after-care side of the work is shared between the Hospital Boards and Local Health Authorities. The County Council for their share provide open-air Shelters where required. They also join with Regional Boards in making from time to time local arrangements for Mass Miniature Radiography Surveys, and through their Health Visitors undertake a considerable amount of follow-up work with patients. Extra nourishment may in necessitous cases be provided.

(c) Arrangements are made under this section for the convalescence of persons not requiring special medical or nursing care.

(d) Through their Mental Welfare Officers and Health Visitors, the County Council are responsible for the supervision in their own homes of mentally handicapped persons and also for helping general medical practitioners to secure hospital treatment for those persons who become mentally unbalanced.

Domestic Help

This area is for the most part served from three Home Help Offices. The Shrewsbury Office, which is open from Monday to Friday, deals with the majority of the cases in the Atcham Rural District. There is an office in Church Stretton, open on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons, whilst the cases in the Clun Rural District are served from the Ludlow Home Help Office, which is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. A few cases on the eastern borders of the Atcham Rural District may fall to be dealt with by either the Wellington or the Bridgnorth Home Help Offices.

The table below gives particulars of the cases provided with help from the offices named during the year ended 31st December, 1965.—

Home Help Office	Type of Case					Totals
	Aged and Chronic Sick	Maternity	Temporary Illness	Tuberculosis	Other	
Shrewsbury	365	69	28	4	11	477
Church Stretton	13	3	—	—	—	16
Ludlow	70	2	1	—	—	73
Totals	448	74	29	4	11	566

The majority of cases dealt with by the Shrewsbury office were resident in the Borough.

Hospital Service

Complementary to the Health Services provided by the County Council under the provisions of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, Hospital and Specialist Services are provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board under the provisions of Part II of the Act.

The United Districts are reasonably well supplied with hospitals under the Nos. 15 and 16 Hospital Management Committees, and by Consultants based on the principal hospitals but who hold Specialist Clinics at many of the smaller hospitals in the area.

For the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis, Chest Clinics are held at Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, and at Wellington, whilst for patients from the south of the Districts, a Chest Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month at 11 a.m. at the Child Welfare Centre, Cliftonville, Dinham, Ludlow. Although this clinic is provided by the Regional Hospital Board, it is, for convenience, held at the County Council's Centre.

Mass Miniature Radiography Surveys are undertaken from time to time by the Wolverhampton Mass Radiography Unit, but no such public surveys were undertaken within the area of the United Districts during the current year.

Venereal Diseases Clinic

This Clinic is held at 1 Belmont, Shrewsbury, and is provided by the Shrewsbury Group Hospital Management Committee as part of the hospital and specialist services. The Medical Officers in charge are Dr. J. P. G. Rogerson and Dr. E. M. McCarter. The Clinic also serves the neighbouring Counties of Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire.

The times of sessions at the Venereal Diseases Clinic are now as follows:—

Males:	Tuesdays and Fridays	...	...	...	...	6-8 p.m.
Females:	Mondays	...	...	...	...	3.30-5.30 p.m.
	Thursdays	...	...	...	...	5-7 p.m.

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Salop Infirmary is extensively used for the bacteriological examination of water, milk and ice cream.

Chemical analyses of water samples and sewage effluents are made by the Public Analyst at Chester.

Good laboratory facilities are very necessary to the work of the Health Department, and I should like to express my thanks to Dr. A. C. Jones, of the Shrewsbury Laboratory, and his staff for their assistance, in particular perhaps for their invaluable advice when some bacteriological or epidemiological problem arises.

SECTION C

BOROUGH OF BISHOP'S CASTLE

Water Supply

The only problems connected with water supply were again concerned with the relatively few properties still supplied from the old untreated Maes-Gwn source. The scheme to replace this source by using borehole water pumped from The Cabin reservoir has been prepared in detail and is expected to go out to tender in 1966.

Sewage Disposal

The experiment of adding a solution of aluminium chlorohydrate to the sludge in order to accelerate drying on the beds and so obtain a more rapid turnover of drying beds and a more frequent emptying of tanks proved to be a success. General maintainance at the works remains good. The large rainfall late in the year led to some problems due to the large amounts of surface water reaching the works and at times the final effluent drain became overloaded by the combined discharge from the works and storm overflow. A thorough cleaning of this long effluent drain gave some improvement.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The system of collecting refuse on Wednesday each week and paper and cardboard on Saturday mornings has proved very successful and it has been possible to collect from outlying properties weekly instead of fortnightly. Complaints about the service are very rare.

Rodent Control

There were several complaints of rat infestations around a central area of the town. On investigation they proved to be one or two rats and all were satisfactorily dealt with.

Housing

Number of Inhabited Houses...	...	...	...	434
Number of Council Houses	...	...	...	119
Number of Houses completed in 1965:				
Council	...	...	...	—
Private	...	...	...	2
Improvement Grants:				
Discretionary applied for	...	...	...	5
Granted	...	...	...	5
Standard applied for	...	...	...	—
Granted	...	...	...	—
Applicants on Housing List 31/12/65	...	...	...	45
Houses demolished	...	...	...	—
Houses closed	...	...	...	3
Houses made fit	...	...	...	2

Market

The market at the Auction Yard continued to operate on much the same level as the previous year augmented with occasional Saturday sales of Irish cattle. A considerable amount of repair work had to be done to some of the older gates and fittings. Cleansing after sales remained the Council's responsibility.

Food Inspection

A total of 441 cattle, sheep and pigs were slaughtered in the private slaughterhouse, all were inspected and only a small amount of offal was condemned.

H. BRAMWELL

Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

ATCHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Refuse Collection

There was no radical change made in this service during 1965.

The collection vehicles, all rear loaders, consist of three Dennis Paxit 18/24 cu. yd., and one Karrier Fore and Aft Tipper 10/12 cu. yd., a B.M.C. Compressmore vehicle having been replaced by a new Paxit in May, 1965.

Approximately 5,000 tons of refuse were collected and a mileage of 44,892 was travelled by all the vehicles during the year, this being a slight increase over last year's figure.

No difficulty was experienced in the operation of controlled tipping at the one and only central tip at Boar's Den, Weeping Cross. Ease of access, and availability of adequate suitable covering material has made it possible for all tip surfaces to be covered each evening by the use of mechanical aid in the form of the caterpillar tracked bulldozer. In December, the Shrewsbury Corporation began to use the tip by agreement with the Council, and it is anticipated that this will result in an appreciable reduction to the Council of the cost of maintaining the tip, since the Corporation have agreed to pay pro rata (based on quantities of refuse deposited) for their use of the tip.

Many requests have also been received from private Contractors (who previously used the Corporation Tip) for permission to tip rubbish, and since the Council agreed to permit such tipping subject to a charge of 5/- per load, it is hoped that the resultant revenue will help to meet the considerable cost of maintaining the tip properly.

Since 1960 there has been a gradual but constant rise in the number of bins issued under the dustbin hiring scheme. By the end of 1965 over 2,800 bins had been issued since the scheme first started in 1955. The following table shows the net issue of bins up to the 31st March, in each year:—

1956	...	...	611
1957	...	...	585
1958	...	...	164
1959	...	...	105
1960	...	...	113
1961	...	...	177
1962	...	...	210
1963	...	...	215
1964	...	...	266
1965	...	...	361

Water Supplies and Sampling

The number of visits made by Inspectors during the year in connection with water supplies was 806 and a total of 697 samples of water were obtained for bacteriological examination. Of these 2 were from main supplies and the remainder from private wells, bores, springs, etc.

Some samples were obtained in connection with applications for improvement grants, but the large proportion of the samples were obtained in connection with the Housing Survey Programme, which is revealing a high proportion (62%) of bacteriologically unsatisfactory supplies, many of which do not admit of improvement. These supplies are principally in the areas which at present are not serviced by water mains, but it is anticipated that schemes in preparation by the West Shropshire Water Board for the western portion of the district (Alberbury, Vennington, Vron Gate etc. . .) and for the southern portion of the district (Longnor, Frodesley, Leebotwood etc. . .) will in due course provide satisfactory supplies for the large majority of householders in the district.

An impending scheme for the village of Harley will also enable the bacteriologically unreliable estate supply to be dispensed with.

Rodent Control

The Council's Rodent Control Scheme continued to operate satisfactorily during the year, mainly on a Contract basis with Owners or Occupiers of infested properties. At the end of the year the Council held 96 Contracts on various properties.

Summary of premises treated during the year:—

Private Properties	...	...	...	...	148
Agricultural Properties	...	...	...	...	75
Business Properties	...	...	...	...	45
Council Tips and Sewerage Systems	...	...	...	...	15

Although we are aware of three farms (in the west of the district) where warfarin resistance in rats is confirmed, there does not appear to have been any extensive spread of resistant rats to other parts of the district during the year.

Housing Survey and Slum Clearance

Since the commencement of the Housing Survey Programme in November, 1963, up to the end of 1965 a total of 5,791 houses in thirty parishes have been inspected and categorised with results as follows:—

Number of Houses surveyed	...	...	...	5,791
Number in Category 1	...	...	...	3,117
Number in Category 2	...	...	...	990
Number in Category 3	...	...	...	351
Number in Category 4	...	...	...	842
Number in Category 5	...	...	...	491

The results show that whilst a gratifyingly high proportion of the houses surveyed (some 71%) possess all modern amenities, there is a disappointingly large number of unfit houses (23%) and if this proportion is maintained throughout the survey it can be anticipated that there will be over 1,600 houses out of a total of 8,000 which will be found to be unfit to a lesser or greater extent. The worst houses which are considered to be incapable of repair or improvement at reasonable expense, amount to 8.5% of the total so far surveyed, and it is calculated that when the survey has been completed over 600 houses will have been scheduled for demolition or closure. It may well be that in addition a proportion of those houses in Category 4 will decline further unless improved quickly, thus adding to the total number to be scheduled for demolition in due course. A similar decline in Category 3 houses (or alternatively a raising of the standard of fitness) could add to the total of unfit houses.

The absence of a mains water supply in some areas, particularly the western and southern parishes of the District accounts for the high proportion of unfitness in those parishes, and there is no doubt that this factor has imposed a restraint on Owners throughout the District who might otherwise have modernised thier property. Similarly, absence of sewerage facilities in villages has meant that where septic tanks are impracticable, some houses will have to await a main sewerage scheme.

Out of the total of 5,791 houses surveyed, 504 (8½%) were without a laid-on water supply and 233 (4%) have no satisfactory sanitary accommodation: in addition 1,047 (18%) houses have pail or chemical closets. Some 813 (14%) houses have no satisfactory drainage system.

During the year the Council considered a total of 164 unfit houses and made demolition orders on 118, closing orders on 30 and considered and accepted plans for improvement in respect of the remaining 16 houses. A total of 29 families were re-housed from sub-standard houses during the year, a disappointing reduction of 12 on the previous year's figure.

Re-Housing During 1965

During the year a total of 110 families were re-housed (a decrease of 21% on 1964) and these were made up as follows:—

Overcrowded families re-housed	...	...	...	2
Families from Sub-Standard houses	...	...	...	29
Families from Airfield Hutments	...	...	...	4
Families from Waiting List	...	...	...	56
Re-arranged Tenancies	...	...	...	19
Total				110

There was an unfortunate decrease in the number of families re-housed from sub-standard houses, and with the Housing Survey Programme now nearing completion the number of applications from persons living in such houses is likely to increase. A total of 286 new applications were received during the year.

The number of applications from elderly persons has continued to accumulate largely in anticipation of the Council's proposed Group Bungalow Schemes, and analysis of the Waiting List shows a large preponderance of applications for one and two bedroomed accommodation.

Clearance of the Airfield Sites has continued during the year, although more slowly than in 1964. A total of three hutments were closed during the year, all at Atcham.

Hutments in occupation at 31st December, 1965:—

At Atcham Airfield	...	...	...	...	9
At Grafton Airfield	...	...	...	...	4

Housing Statistics

Number of habitable houses	...	...	...	...	8,248
Number of permanent Council Houses	...	...	...	...	1,242
Number of houses completed in 1965:					
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	40
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	105
Number of Houses under construction at 31/12/65:					
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	39
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	179
Number of Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	33
Number of unfit houses closed	...	...	...	...	148
Number of unfit houses made fit	...	...	...	...	55
Total applications for Council Houses at 31/12/65	...	...	...	...	487

Housing Management

The total of permanent Council Houses at the end of the year had arisen to 1,242 necessitating the employment, through Contractors, of at least seven men full-time and several others part-time, and a total of 2,586 repairs instructions were issued during the year.

All urgent and pressing work was carried out satisfactorily although it is more noticeable each year that the older houses require a great deal of structural attention. This was particularly true of the 19 houses purchased at Factory Road, Hanwood, which, although modernised, are in a poor structural condition and will require further considerable expenditure during the next two years.

The attention of the Council is also drawn to the high cost of maintaining the Group Bungalow Schemes, which during the financial year ending March 1966 will have an estimated deficit of approximately £1,000 per scheme: this deficit will have to be met out of the Housing Revenue Account.

The removal of the Council Offices to Oakley Manor has enabled a moderately spacious housing store to be established and for the first time all housing stores will be kept under one roof: it is hoped that this will permit bulk-buying of maintenance materials at advantageous rates and a more efficient service.

Frost damage during the winter months was very moderate at a cost of £197 18s. 4d. of which £185 9s. 3d. was recovered from the Council's Insurers.

Food Premises

General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Tobacconists and confectioners only	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Buchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Creameries...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Canning Factory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chemists Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:

Fish Frying Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice Cream Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	71

A small number of village shops are now considered to be below generally accepted modern standards, and pressure is being brought to bear on the occupiers of such premises in an effort to bring about the desired improvements.

The 71 retailers of ice-cream in the districts sell almost exclusively the pre-packed products of the large national ice-cream manufacturers. There is only one retailer who utilises a sterilised liquid (produced by a National Manufacturer) for his own retail trade in soft-ice-cream. The elimination of smaller manufacturers has led to a tremendous improvement in the bacteriological quality of ice-cream, since the larger manufacturers have the laboratory facilities and staff to ensure that their products are of a high standard of purity, and all samples obtained during the year were of a satisfactory standard.

Petroleum Storage

During the year the Council received 9 applications for new or amended licences to store petroleum spirit, and by the end of the year there were 134 licenced installations in the district, of which 40 were held by petrol retailers. Many of the older licenced installations fall short of Home Office recommendations in connection with safety, and there are a small number of installations (principally those in developing villages) which must be considered to have a limited life.

During the year the remainder (7) of the licenced pre-war tanks in use were subjected to a pressure test to conform to the recommendations of the Home Office in the code of practise.

Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 83 of which eight were inspected.

There do not appear to be a great number of premises having serious deficiencies, although lighting standards generally are well below recommended levels: it is anticipated that a minimum lighting standard will be introduced shortly.

Another point noted is the difficulty in retaining stipulated temperatures in shop premises open to the public.

Public Health Inspector's Visits

The following is a summary of the visits made by the Inspectors during the year:—

Housing Inspections and Maintenance	...	...	2,211
Nuisances	...	...	93
Visits under Housing Acts	...	...	2,602
Water Supplies	...	...	806
Drainage	...	...	300
Refuse Collection	...	...	276
Caravans	...	...	89
Pests Acts	...	...	32
Infectious Diseases	...	...	24
Food Premises	...	...	85
Knackers Yard	...	...	1
Unsound Food	...	...	10
Clean Air Act	...	...	4
Food Poisoning Investigations	...	...	35
Petroleum Regulations	...	...	55
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	14
Infested Premises	...	...	12
Welfare	...	...	1
Diseases of Animals	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	149
Transport Maintenance and Supervision	...	...	91
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	33

DENIS CORFIELD
Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector

CLUN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Water Supplies

As indicated in the 1964 report the West Shropshire Water Board completed the work on the new scheme serving the Newcastle, Whitcott Keysett and Mardu areas and it is now in operation.

New schemes passed on to the board for other areas such as Norbury, Wentnor, Edgton, Hopesay and Pennerley have not been started. Some progress on the schemes is confidently expected in 1966.

The year has not been so dry as 1964 and less water has had to be carried, only Lynch Gate and Pennerley being completely out of water.

The table given below shows the water supply position in the district now but does not yet take full account of new consumers at Whitcott Keysett and Mardu.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Supplied Direct to House</i>		<i>Supplied by Standpipes</i>	
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
Bedstone	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bettws-y-Crwyn	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brompton and Rhiston ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bucknell	135	529	Nil	Nil
Chirbury	161	423	Nil	Nil
Clun	297	963	5	18
Clunbury	116	476	3	11
Clungunford	36	117	Nil	Nil
Colebatch	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Edgton	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hopesay	88	284	Nil	Nil
Hopton Castle	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Llanfairwaterdine ...	12	39	Nil	Nil
Lydbury North	10	33	6	20
Lydham	18	54	Nil	Nil
Mainstone	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
More	7	23	Nil	Nil
Myndtown	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Norbury	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ratlinghope	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Shelve	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Stowe	35	114	Nil	Nil
Wentnor	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Worthen	341	1067	Nil	Nil

Fewer samples of the Public Supplies were taken because the Water Board take samples frequently themselves and undue duplication seemed to be merely a waste of manpower. The department continued to sample private supplies, new sources, wells and springs and on the way to these sources, odd samples were taken from the Public supplies.

Results over the year were as follows:—

Public Supplies	Satisfactory	16	Unsatisfactory	6
Private Mains	Satisfactory	14	Unsatisfactory	20
Wells and Springs	Satisfactory	8	Unsatisfactory	16

The West Shropshire Water Board are operating a policy of chlorinating supplies such as Clun and Bucknell and in order to do so are using water pumped from the boreholes and not from the old springs. As always when a supply is first chlorinated there were many complaints from consumers but these soon died down as people become accustomed to the fact.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The new vehicle is in service but the extra capacity has not shown quite the saving in time which was hoped for. During 1966 the reason for this will have to be discovered in order to make the best possible use of the vehicle in conjunction with the new arrangements necessitated by the merger with Bishop's Castle Borough. Difficulties have been encountered on all the refuse tips due to softness of the top surface and some form of moveable tipping platform is needed.

Sewerage Schemes

The hope that the new Clun Sewerage Scheme would be in use by the end of 1965 had to be given up when the firm carrying out the work went bankrupt and withdrew from the contract. Completion will now be late in 1966. Delays have also been experienced due to severe flooding of the works site. before the flood wall was properly constructed.

Work of preparation for the schemes in the Worthen area, Bucknell and Bedstone, Kinsley Road, Knighton, Chirbury and Newcastle has proceeded slowly but steadily throughout the year and it is hoped to have Ministry approval to the first three named during 1966.

Public Health Inspectors Visits

Housing Inspectors and Maintenance	...	...	381
Housing Applications ...	...	...	32
Nuisances ...	...	...	52
Water Supplies and Samples	...	...	86
Drainage Inspections ...	...	...	90
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	157
Moveable Dwellings ...	...	...	34
Milk Supplies ...	...	...	4
Rodent Control ...	...	...	72
Meat and Food Inspections	...	...	168
Factories and Food Premises	...	...	61
Other Miscellaneous Visits ...	...	...	124

Improvement Grants

No less than 75 grants were approved during the year 35 of which were discretionary grants, the other 40 being standard grants. Total grants approved now exceed 600 and over 500 have been paid.

The average discretionary grant per property was £335 a slight decrease on the previous year.

Rodent Control

The slow outspread of the area in which warfarin resistant rats are found has continued and treatments requiring the use of the old "sudden death" poisons have increased in number. The much sought successor to warfarin has not yet materialised. What is needed is a substance toxic only to rodents, palatable to them, and simple to use.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies

The inspection of meat at the two private slaughter-houses in Clun was carried out with the following results:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	135	Nil	Nil	726	283
Number inspected ...	135	Nil	Nil	726	283
Number diseased ...	4 livers infested with fluke	—	—	—	2 livers worm infestation

H. BRAMWELL

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION D

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:—

Infectious Diseases, 1965

Disease	Atcham R.D.	Bishop's Castle	Clun R.D.	Total
Scarlet Fever	49	—	11	60
Measles	157	3	108	268
Whooping Cough	5	4	2	11
Pneumonia	4	—	1	5
Poliomyelitis:				
Paralytic	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	3	—	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	1
Dysentery... ..	34	—	2	36
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:				
Pulmonary	2	—	—	2
Non-pulmonary	2	—	—	2
Typhoid	—	—	—	—
Totals	258	8	125	391

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases during the year was 391—150 more than the number notified in the previous year; the biennial variation in the incidence of measles being responsible in the main.

No cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis were notified in any of the Districts. Children can be immunised against diphtheria and poliomyelitis, either by the family doctors or at the Schools or Infant Welfare Centres by the Medical Officers of the County Health Department. The last cases of diphtheria notified in any of the Districts were in the year 1949.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following were the numbers of notified cases of tuberculosis on the Registers for each of the Districts as at the 31st December, 1965 :—

District	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Atcham R.D. ...	46	35	10	10	56	45
Bishop's Castle ...	—	2	—	—	—	2
Clun R.D. ...	15	10	2	3	17	13
Total	61	47	12	13	73	60

New Cases Notified

The following new cases were notified during the year:—

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Atcham R.D.	2	—	—	2	2	2
Bishop's Castle M.B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clun R.D.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	—	—	2	2	2

Deaths and Death Rates

There was one death attributable to non-respiratory tuberculosis in Atcham Rural District during the year, representing a rate of 0.03 per thousand of the population over the united districts.

CANCER

The total number of deaths from cancer, including leukaemia, in the three Districts was 64. This gives a death rate of 1.85 per 1,000 of the population. In the previous year the number of deaths was 81.

Of the total deaths from this disease, 12 were in the lungs or bronchus (10 male and 2 female). The percentage of the cases in the lungs or bronchus was 18.8 per cent (in 1964 it was 19.8 per cent).

The following are the figures showing the number of deaths from all forms of cancer (including leukaemia) and the death rates in each of the Districts:—

District	Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000 of the population
	M.	F.	
Atcham R.D.	29	17	1.51
Bishop's Castle M.B. ...	1	1	1.59
Clun R.D.	7	9	1.71
South West Salop ...	37	27	1.85

In the County of Salop as a whole, deaths from cancer, including leukaemia numbered 619—a rate of 1.95 per 1,000 of the population.

APPENDIX I

CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	Atcham R.D.	Bishop's Castle M.B.	Clun R.D.	Total
1. Tuberculosis—respiratory	—	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis—other	1	—	—	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis... ..	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant { Stomach	5	—	5	10
11. Lung, Bronchus	11	—	1	12
12. Neoplasm { Breast	2	—	3	5
13. Uterus	—	—	2	2
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	26	2	5	33
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	—	—	2
16. Diabetes	1	—	1	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	31	3	19	53
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	45	5	15	65
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease... ..	12	—	2	14
20. Other Heart Disease	29	7	12	48
21. Other Circulatory Diseases	6	1	5	12
22. Influenza	—	2	—	2
23. Pneumonia	17	—	5	22
24. Bronchitis	12	—	3	15
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	—	1	5
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	1	3
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	—	—	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	—	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	1	1	2
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	2	—	1	3
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases... ..	18	—	5	23
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	6	—	1	7
34. All other accidents	5	—	1	6
35. Suicide	1	—	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—
All Causes	242	22	89	353

The total number of deaths was 59 less than in the previous year, and the crude death-rate was 10.21 per 1,000 of the population. The corrected death-rate for each of the Districts is given in the table at the beginning of the Report.

The three chief causes of death were as in previous years, Heart and Circulatory diseases, Vascular diseases of the nervous system and Malignant diseases.

There was one death from tuberculosis.

There were 7 deaths from motor vehicle accidents and 6 deaths from other accidents.

It will be noticed also that there were no deaths from the infectious diseases (diphtheria, measles, whooping cough and scarlet fever), which used to be the cause of death among young children, and there have been no deaths from poliomyelitis.

APPENDIX II

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

BOROUGH OF BISHOP'S CASTLE

1. Inspections :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	8	—	—
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	17	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Totals	19	25	—	—

2. Defects—Nil.

3. Outwork—Nil.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ATCHAM

1. Inspections ;—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	—	—	—
Factories not included, in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	88	12	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	90	12	—	—

2. Defects :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

3. Outwork—Nil.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLUN

1. Inspections :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	8	—	—
Factories not included, in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	22	1	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	24	30	1	—

2. Defects :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	1	—	—	—

3. Outwork—Nil.

Wilding & Son Ltd., Shrewsbury

